

26 July 2023

Metro Mining Limited (MMI)

Starting to perform

MMI started to deliver on its promise in Jun. Q'23. MMI delivered sharply increased production (+28%) and sales (+9%) during the quarter, bettering our estimates on both fronts. MMI ended June 23 with cash of A\$20.6m, after positive cashflow from operations of A\$15.8m. Positive site EBITDA of A\$11.4m was all generated in May and June, following the restart in April. It appears MMI is clear of the maintenance debt and resulting unplanned outages that plagued production in 2022. CY23 sales guidance remains 4.5-5.0M WMT (Petra 4.75M WMT), and MMI has offtake in place for up to 5M WMT. Whilst a token, MMI's A\$2.5m debt repayment during the quarter suggest confidence in the Company's outlook. Maintain Buy, TP 5.6¢/sh (prev. 5.2¢/sh).

Jun. Q'23 operating results

- Sales price A\$41.1/WMT FOB (moved from predominantly CIF basis - slightly below our CIF price)
- Sales 1.265M WMT (Petra 1.2M WMT).
- Site costs A\$26.2/WMT (Petra A\$24/WMT).

Expansion on track

- The barge loading facility was upgraded during the wet season, with increased reliability and loading rates showing very significant improvements over 2022.
- MMI is acquiring more powerful prime movers, enabling the use of quad trailers capable of hauling 230WMT as opposed to the existing triple trailers (capable of hauling 175WMT).
- The new screening plant is expected to be commissioned in March 2024. The ability of the new screening plant to handle wet ore could extend MMI's operating season, significantly reducing unit costs.
- The Offshore Floating Terminal (OFT) is under tow from Guinea to China and is expected to be delivered to Australia in November 2023.

Scale will deliver increasing margin

- MMI is expanding production capacity to 7M WMT in CY24 (we assume sales of 6M WMT), with land-based capability expected to be in place by the end of August 2023.
- The OFT suggests upside capacity risk, with the barge loader becoming the constraint at approximately 8M WMT pa, absent increased barge sizes. We currently assume maximum sales of 6.5WMT pa from 2025.

Key Dates Ahead

- Sep. Q'23 land-based expansion capability in place
- Dec. Q'23 delivery of offshore floating terminal

BUY Share Price: A\$0.025

Target Price: A\$0.056

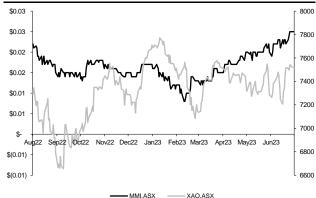
Company Data

Shares – ordinary (M)	4,365.3
Dilution (M)	543.3
Total (fully diluted) (M)	4,384.6
Market capitalisation (\$M)	109.1
12 month low/high (\$)	0.01/ 0.03
Average monthly turnover (\$M)	2.4
GICS Industry	Metals & Mining

Financial Summary (fully diluted/normalised)

Year end December	CY22A	CY23F	CY24F	CY25F	CY26F
Revenue (\$M)	179	246	323	326	326
Costs (\$M)	-202	-213	-255	-258	-258
EBITDA (\$M)	-23	33	67.6	68.4	68.4
NPAT (\$M)	-51.0	2.7	24.4	27.7	31.9
EPS (¢ps)	NA	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.6
EPS growth (%)	NA	NA	100%	14%	15%
PER (x)	NA	50.2	5.6	4.9	4.3
Op. Cashflow (\$M)	-8.4	14.8	50.3	53.2	57.0
OCFPS (¢ps)	-0.2	0.3	0.9	1.0	1.0
POCFPS (x)	-13.1	9.2	2.7	2.6	2.4
Enterprise Value (\$M)	136	191	160	112	52
EV / EBITDA (x)	-6.0	5.7	2.4	1.6	0.8
Payout Ratio (%)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Dividends (¢ps)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Yield (%)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Franking (%)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

MMI – performance over one year



Disclosure and Disclaimer

This report must be read with the disclosure and disclaimer on the final page of this document. Petra Capital was joint lead manager and bookrunner for this company's placement to raise \$25.4m by way of a two-tranche placement at A\$0.02/sh on 27 July 2022, for which fees were received.

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Analysis

alues are in A\$ millions unl	ess indica	ted other	wise			Share Price		(\$/share)	0.025		
ecember Year end						Shares on Issue		(#M)	4,365.3		
come Statement	CY22A	CY23F	CY24F	CY25F	CY26F	Market Capitalization		(\$M)	109.1		
Revenues & Income	179.0	246.1	322.7	326.5	326.5	Options, Perfs, Other		(#M)	543.3		
Operating Costs	-195.3	-205.4	-247.7	-250.7	-250.7	Assumed Issue (@0.02/sh)		(#M)	500.0		
Corporate & Other	-6.3	-7.4	-7.4	-7.4	-7.4	Fully Diluted		(#M)	5,408.5		
EBITDA	-22.6	33.3	67.6	68.4	68.4						
D&A	-14.4	-16.5	-20.6	-22.3	-22.3						
EBIT	-37.0	16.7	47.0	46.1	46.1	Attr. R&R (Mt)	Meas.	Indic.	Infrd.	Total	Reser
Net Interest	-13.7	-9.4	-12.2	-6.5	-0.6	Bauxite Hills	68	40	20	127.8	92.9
Taxes	0.0	-4.7	-10.4	-11.9	-13.7	$Al_2O_3\%$	50.1%	49.2%	45.5%	45.5%	50.0
Operational NPAT	-51.0	2.7	24.4	27.7	31.9	SiO ₂ %	12.4%	14.4%	16.6%	13.7%	12.89
Adjustments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						-
Reported NPAT	-51.0	2.7	24.4	27.7	31.9	Assumptions	CY22A	CY23F	CY24F	CY25F	CY26
						Freight (A\$/t wet)	19	10	13	13	13
ash Flow Statement	CY22A	CY23F	CY24F	CY25F	CY26F	Bauxite (US\$/t dry)	42	43	43	43	4
Receipts	190	235	321	326	326	Bauxite (US\$/t wet)	37	38	38	38	3
Payments	-192	-210	-253	-255	-256	Avg. Recd Price (US\$/t wet)	37	36	38	38	3
Net Interest	-7.1	-9.4	-12.2	-6.5	-0.6	Received AUD/USD	0.71	0.70	0.70	0.75	0.7
Tax Paid	0.0	0.0	-5.1	-10.4	-12.8	Avg. Recd Price (A\$/t wet)	52.17	51.1	53.8	50.2	50.2
Operating Cash Flow	-8.4	14.8	50.3	53.2	57.0						
,		•				Sales (100%, Mtpa wet)	CY22A	CY23F	CY24F	CY25F	CY26
Exploration & Studies	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-2.0	-2.0	Bauxite Hills	3.4	4.8	6.0	6.5	6.
Net Capital Expenditure	-0.2	-31.6	-10.0	-2.0 -4.0	-2.0 -4.0	Moisture (%, assumed)	11%	12%	12%	12%	129
Acquisitions + Other	-3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	moisture (70, assumeu)	11/0	12/0	12/0	12/0	12,
Investing Cash Flow	-3.8 - 6.7	- 31.9	-10.3	- 6.0	- 6.0	Operating costs (CFR)	CY22A	CY23F	CY24F	CY25F	CY26
Free Cash Flow	-15.1	-17.1	40.0	47.2	51.0	Site costs (A\$/t wet)	32.3	26.7	22.0	19.8	19.
Proceeds from borrowing		45.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	Royalties (A\$/t wet)	5.0	6.0	5.9	5.4	5.
Repayment of borrowings	-0.5	-2.5	-33.1	-20.2	-21.8	Freight (A\$/t wet)	19.4	9.9	13.4	13.0	13.
Lease repayments	-14.0	-13.6	-8.5	0.0	0.0	Op. costs (CFR, A\$/t wet)	56.7	42.6	41.2	38.3	38.
Change in Equity & Other	19.8	5.0	0.0	0.0	9.1						
Dividends Paid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Operating Margin	CY22A	CY23F	CY24F	CY25F	CY26
Financing Cash Flow	14.8	34.3	-41.6	-20.2	-12.7	Sales Revenue (A\$M)	179	246	323	326	32
Change in Cash	-0.3	17.2	-1.6	27.0	38.3	Operating costs (A\$M)	-195	-205	-248	-251	-25
						Gross Margin (A\$M)	-16.3	40.7	75.0	75.8	75.
alance Sheet	CY22A	CY23F	CY24F	CY25F	CY26F	Gross Margin (%)	-9%	17%	23%	23%	239
Cash & Equivalents	11.7	29.0	27.4	54.5	92.8	Corporate & Other (A\$M)	-6.3	-7.4	-7.4	-7.4	-7.
Receivables	4.4	15.9	17.8	18.7	18.7	EBITDA Margin (A\$M)	-22.6	33.3	67.6	68.4	68.
Inventories, Other	6.7	13.8	15.0	15.5	15.5	EBITDA Margin (%)	-13%	14%	21%	21%	219
Current Assets	22.8	58.8	60.3	88.7	127.0						
PPE	79.4	94.5	84.0	65.7	47.4	Costs, volumes & received pr	icing				
Other Non-Current	27.3	9.8	1.3	1.3	1.3						_
Non-Current Assets	106.7	104.3	85.3	67.0	48.7	70					7
Total Assets	129.5	163.1	145.6	155.7	175.8	60					6
		-		-		50	-/-				5
Trade Payables	28.2	13.1	13.2	13.9	13.9						
Current Debt	0.0	33.1	20.2	21.8	4.8	W 40					4 Willion WMT
Prov, Other (incl lease)	9.8	6.5	11.8	13.3	14.1	ğ 30					3 Ё
Current Liabilities	37.9	52.7	45.3	49.0	32.8	¥ 20					2 ≅
Long Term Debt	38.1	50.5	30.3	8.5	3.6						_
Other (incl lease)	34.5	28.2	14.0	8.5 14.5	3.6 14.6	10					1
						0					0
Non-Current Liabilities	72.6	78.7	44.3	23.0	18.2	2019A 2020A 2021A 2022A	2023F 202	24F 2025F 202	6F 2027F 20	028F 2029F	
Total Liabilities	110.6	131.5	89.5	72.0	51.1	Site costs (LHS)	Freight	(LHS)	Ro	yalties (LHS)	
	45.5	a		a	424 -	Received price (LHS)	Volume	(RHS)			
Net Assets	18.9	31.7	56.0	83.7	124.7						
					_	Valuation (+1Yr)		Method	A\$m	A\$/Sh	dilute
etrics & Dividends	CY22A	CY23F	CY24F	CY25F	CY26F	Bauxite Hills		NPV_{10}	395	0.07	
EPS	NA	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.6	Bauxite Exploration		Est.	10	0.00	
PER	NA	50.2x	5.6x	4.9x	4.3x	Surat Thermal		Est.	0	0.00	
EBITDA GROWTH	-4%	-247%	103%	1%	0%	Corporate Costs		NPV_{10}	(41)	(0.01)	
EV/EBITDA	-6.0x	5.7x	2.4x	1.6x	0.8x	Options		A/C	6	0.00	
Dividend (cps)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Jun 24F Net Cash (Debt)		, -	(68)	(0.01)	
			0%	0%	0%	SOTP Valuation			302	0.056	
Div Yield	0%	0%	U 7n	UZ	リク	30 IP Valuation			20/	U.U.D.D	

Source: Petra Capital



Summary of Changes

- Our valuation has increased following the roll-forward of our model post release of 1H2023 actuals, including cash balance.
- We have increased assumed sales in CY23 marginally, following a strong Jun. Q'23, while reducing 1H23 prices in line with actuals.
- We have increased site costs by 11% in CY24, on the assumption that full costs savings from scale won't be achieved in the first year.
- We have incorporated a debt model for interest costs.
- We have increased our assumed equity raising price from A\$0.016 to A\$0.02/share

Figure 1: Summary of Changes

			CY23F			CY24F			CY25F	
		New	Old	% var	New	Old	% var	New	Old	% var
Revenue	A\$m	246	265	-7%	323	323	0%	326	326	0%
Reported EBITDA	A\$m	33	40	-18%	68	80	-15%	68	68	0%
NPAT	A\$m	2.7	10.5	-74%	24.4	37	-34%	31	31	0%
EPS	Ac/sh	nm	nm		0.4	0.7	-34%	0.5	0.5	0%
NPV/sh	A\$/sh	0.056	0.052	7%						
Valuation	A\$m	302	287	5%						
Equity Sales	(Mt)	4.82	4.75	1%	6.0	6.0	0.0%	6.5	6.5	0%
Average Realised Price	A\$/t	51.1	55.7	-8%	53.8	53.8	0.0%	50.2	50.2	0%
Op. Cost (Ex D&A)	A\$/t	42.6	45.6	-7%	41.2	39.2	5.1%	38.3	38.3	0%

Source: Petra Capital forecasts

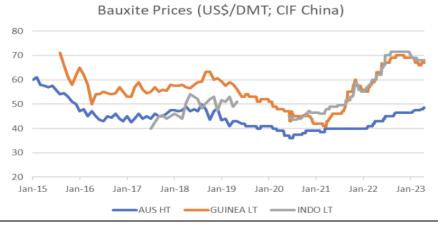
China import bauxite prices

2022 saw record Chinese imports of bauxite at 125.7Mt. 1H23 imports were 72.5Mt, suggesting annual imports could reach 140Mt, up a further 12% on the record 2022 year.

This is expected to drive stronger pricing for Australian bauxite, with Australian prices slowly trending up. Figure 2 shows CM Group's estimation of index pricing for Australian, Indonesian and Guinean bauxite imports delivered into China.

MMI expects the variance between these prices to narrow from the current levels around US\$20/DMT, towards a long run value in use differential of US\$10/DMT. We assume a long-term price of ~US\$43/DMT. The value in use differential is essentially the additional cost of caustic soda to quench the additional silica in Australian bauxite.

Figure 2: China – Imported bauxite price indices (US\$/DMT)



Source: Company (CM Group)



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